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THREE SOSNETS

I.-THE PESSIMIST.

Behold this man, and though I love him net,
Yet there is much within his life to wake
Our hearts to pity; for his own soul's sake
Curse not the bitter mocking of his lot.
Like a snake coiled in some deserted spot,
He dwells alone, and, while his heart may

break, He scorns to stoop for beauty, or to take A gift from sweeter hands and lives, God

In his false eyes the world is but a tomb,
And men but carrion fit to feast on shame
Betwirt the watches of the day and night;
There is no faith, no beauty, and no bloom
For him who stands, with blasted hope
and fame.
Hissing the harmless venom of his spite.

11.-THE OPTIMIST.

Then happy fool, more blind than those whose eyes
Are veiled with utter darkness, life to thee Is clear as sunlight shining on a sea,
And softer than the lucent blue of skies.
Thy shallow fatcy paints thee good and wise, And, like a slave that knows not freedom,

free; It is not thine to suffer, nor to be A bold truth-seeker in a world of lies.

If happiness be thine, then love it so: Yot I would rather love my share of pain Than live thy life and dream thy hollow dreams; For joy is deepest when it springs from

And tears are to the soul as falling rain To the parched meadows and the sluggish streams.

III.-THE MATERIALIST.

O wise, wise man, I how before thy face And do thee reverence, for thou art indeed Our very light, our gospel, and our creed, New-born of truth and sanctified of grace. Ah! let me hear thy voice a little space, That I may grow like unto thee and read Thy knowledge—which is bounteous—as a

That creeps and coils about some garden-place. The mind! the soul !- what empty words sre these ? Thou knowest them not, for they are light as foam Wind-tossed upon a moon-illumined sea. And yet, ab, knave and braggart, on thy

Thou art the curse of men, and no man's Should ever serve to shelter thine or theel -[George Edgar Montgomery.

THE ENGINE.

Into the gloom of the deep dark night,
With panting breath and a startled
scream,
Swift as a bird in sudden flight
Darts this creature of steel and steam.

"To remember—what?" said Mr. Meredith, with a hopoless expression of insanity on his countenance. Kitty Meredith dropped both bands despairingly ather sides. "Charles!" she exclaimed, "you don't mean that you have forgotten alreads?" "My dear," said Mr. Meredith, fumbling in the depths of his overcoat pockets for a missing glove, "I may not have forgotten alreads!" "The oysters!" suggested the wife. "Oh, yes" said Mr. Meredith "the oysters."

ters." And two ounces of double zephyr scar-

let wool."
"Exactly."
"And the depot-back to be waiting at two o'clock for your cousin from Chicago."
Mr. Meredith slapped one hand on the "She is coming to day, I declare to good-

"And a dezen Havana oranges for dessert, and two pour a of white grapes, and
some of those delicious little Naples biscuit
and maccaroons, from Saltaselli's—oh, and
let them send me up a girl from St.

Char': "A—which?"

Char'th'
"A—which?"
"Agirl, you goost for general housework. Phebe went home this morning with the facesche, and I can't be left alone with company coming, and all. Mind she is a good cook and understands waiting at table."

And Mr. M redith rushed off to catch

And Mr. M redith rushed off to catch the min-s-thirty express with a kaleidoscope confusion of grapes, zephyr wool, depot hacks, oysters and servant-maids careering through his brain, which boded ill for Mrs. Meredith's domestic pians.

While that lady, clasping both hands over her forehead in a sort of tragic despair rushed down into the kitchen, where a very good-looking young man of some two or three and tenty was on his knees in front of the range, trying to coax a most unwilling fire to burn. The good-looking young man glanced up with a comical sparkle in his eye and a smear of soot traversing the bridge of his nose.

"Tom," said Mrs. Meredith, hysterically, "Tom," said Mrs. Meredith, hysterically,

"Well?" said he.
"Tom," said Mrs. Meredith, bysterically,
'can you make a lobster salad?"
'Like a book!" said Tom.
"And coffee?"
"I learned in Paris."

"Good," said Mrs. Meredith. "And I can make buttermilk biscuit—and, between us, we'll get up a decent lunch for the young lady from Chicagol As for indner.—"

"Well?" again remarked the young man with the soot-besmeared nose. "Providence must provide!" sighed the

"There's anold chintz colored recater in the barn yard." said Tom, hopefully. "If I could catch him I'd have a chicken stew."
"Tom," said Mrs Meredith, "did you ever make a chicken stew?"

"Then you don't know what yoy're talk-ing about," said the lady, with some "Yes I do, too," maintained the amsteur

"Yes I do, too," maintained the amateur Soyer. "Onions, potatoes, celery, pearl, barley, with a pinch of salt, and—"Nonsense!" interposed Mrs. Meredith. "Do pick that lobster out of its shell and leave off romancing! You're a deal better at poetry and newspaper sketches than you are in the kitchen; though to be sure," with a twinge of conscience, "goodness knows what I should do without you just in this particular emergency, you dear old darling."

The lobster was only half picked out of The lobeter was only half picked out of the shell, the butter milk biscuit was still unmixed, and Mrs. Meredith with a pocket-handkerchief tied around her pret-ty brown hair, was dusting the little draw-ing room when there cames ring at the door-bell. She put her turbaned head out of the window after a most unceremonious fashion.
"Who's there," she demanded, in a high

contraito.
"Does Mrs. Meredish live here!" retorted a woman's voice. And at the same
moment the young matron caught sight of
a neat black leather bag, a black alpaca
dress, and a shawl of the plainest Highland plaid.
"It's the new girl, thank Providence!" land plaid.

"It's the new girl, thank Providence!" said Mrs. Meredith; and she flew downstairs, thanking honest Charley in her heart for this unexpected promptitude. "Come in," said she, opening the door wide. "I am glad you are so punctual, my good girl. From St. Char's Inteligence Bureau, Isuppose? Now don't take off yor, things up here—the servant's room is below stairs; you may as as well come directly down into the kitchen."

She led the the way down, followed by the new girl, whose counterance bore

the new girl, whose counterance bore rather a bewildered expression. "What's your name?" she asked patronizingly. "My name? Oh, it's Martha," answer-ed the girl, in some confusion.
"Martha?" critically repeated Mrs.
Meredith. "What an ugly name! I think I shall call you Patty. Have you refer-

ences?"
"I-I believe so."
"I think," said Mr Meredith, surveying her from top to too, "that you are a little overdressed for your station, Patty: but of course you have some plainer clothes in your trunk when it comes?"
The stranger lifted a pair of gray blue eyes to the tall form, girded around with a towel, who was vigorously wrestling with the claws of a stupendous lobster at the table beyond.
"Do you keep a man cook, ma sm?" said

"Do you keep a man cook, ma'am?" said

she.

"Mrs. Meredith drew herself up. "Certainly not," said she. "This is my brother.
Mr. Selwyn, who is kindly assisting me to
make asalad."

"But he is not doing it right," said the
new gir!. "He'll never get the meat out of
the shell in that way. Let me show you,
Mr. Selwyn."

"And with deft fingers she loosened the
luscious white fibre from the scarlet shell

luscious white fibre from the scarlet shell in a manner that made Mr Selwyn cry,

"bravo!"
"And now, Patty," said Mrs Meredith. I will show you where the things are, and leave you to get up as nice a lunch as you can for half past two o'clock; we are expecting my husband's cousin from Chicavo, and I want everything in perfect order."
"I'll finish the saind." said Tom, who had secret y been observing the pretty face and trim figure of the new Jomestic, "now that I've commenced it, But you needn't look so perturbed. Party, if that's your name. I'll be careful not to get in your, way, And you can ask my sixer if I'm not a handy sort of a fellow around the kitchen."
Kity shook hor head surreptitiously at

"That I forgot all about the oysiers and the zephyr wool and the servant girl."
"Forgot?"
"Yes—forgot. Isn't that plain English enough?"
"But you didn't forget," remonstrated Mrs. Meredith. "You sent her. She's here now in the kitchen."
Mr. Meredith started. "I've sent no one," said he. "Never thought of the girl from that moment to this, I give you my word of honor!"

of honor!"
"Then," slowly ejaculat d Kitty, "who
did and her?"
"Ring the bell!" said Mr. Meredith,
"Let's have her up! Who knows but
what she's one of those regular women,

what she's one of those regular women, with an eye to the forks and spoons!\(^{\Omega}\) And as she spoke he jerked the bell cord with some energy.

In a minute or so the new girl came up smiling and courtesying. Mr. Meredith uttered an exclamation of amazement.

"Why, it's Martha Meredith!" shouted he. "It's my cousin from Chicago!"

And he classed her into his arms, with a shower of kieses that made honest Tom's bair strand on end.

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A Romance in the Life of Mr. Stephens From "A Life of Work and Pain" in New York Timer.

Entering college in this way, young Ste-Entering college in this way, young Stephens was naturally expected to do well, and he did not disappoint such expectations. His progress was rapid, his industry indefatigable, his record as a scholar most brilliant. Some time after he had been in the college the project which his patrons had in regard to his entering the ministry was disclosed to him, but feeling that he was not adapted for the pulpit, he declined to enter upon religious studies. At the same time he pledged himself to ropay the money which his kind friends had expended for his education. Subsequently he did so to the last penny.

on the first Monday in August, 1882, still a child in stature, but with a well stored mind, a bright intellect, shining through almost supernaturally orillient black eyes eyes set in a face which had never known and would never know the blush of health had a squared taking with him the high. and would never know the blush of health—he graduated, taking with him the highest honors of his class. His high standing won him much renown in the college town and his immediate pecuniary necessities—he was almost without a penny in the world—were relived by an offer which he received and accepted, to teach a high school at Madison, in his native state. He taught for four menths—four menths which

received and accepted, to teach a might school at Madison, in his native state. He taught tor four months—four months which he still recalls as the happiest and yet the saddest period in his life—four months, during which there came to him a sorrow that he will take to his grave.

Among his pupils was a girl of great beauty and gentleness. With all the sincerity and earnestness of a passionate and refined nature, he loved that girl. But he was poor—poor almost to penury, The curse of ill-health, which had followed him from his birth clung to him still. He had a great mind, but he was purpy and insignificant in body. He was assured by medical advisors, and he belived in t death might come to him at any moment. He loved with an earnestness, a loyalty, and unselfish devotion which few men know—loved with a love which in its tender intensity, was almost womanish. But for

"A young heart desolate In the wide world— In the wide world—
"I have often had my whole sou roused with the fury of a lion and the ambition of a Cesar by, I repeat, so slight a thing as a look. What have I not suffered from a look? What have I not suffered from the tone of a remark, from a sense of neglect, from a supposed injury, and intended injury? But every such pang was a friction that brought out latent from My spirit of warring against the werld however, never held in it anything of a desire to crush or trample on those who did me wrong; no, only a desire to get above them—to exceit them; to enjoy the gratification of seeing them feel that they were wrong; to compel their admiration—this is the extent of my ambition; this the length, breadth and depth of my revenge."

what she's one of those regular women, with an eye to the forks and specially with an eye to the forks and specially and a she spoke he jerked the belt cord with some energy.

In a minute or so the new girl came up the militing and courtesying. At Meradith, "Why, it's Martha Meradith' should be "The my cousin from Chicago" and the "Hy, it's Martha Meradith' should be "The my cousin from Chicago" and the classed her into his arraw, with a shower of kieses that made honest Tom's bair stand on end.

It wish she was my cousin from Chicago," utered he, in a stage, side.

This my cousin from Chicago," utered he, in a stage, side.

Ritty turned as scarlet as a papper-podi "On, good graciout" she cried, clasping her little hand neryously, "and I took her for the cook!"

"And I am a cook—when occasion endity flushed the forth cook!"

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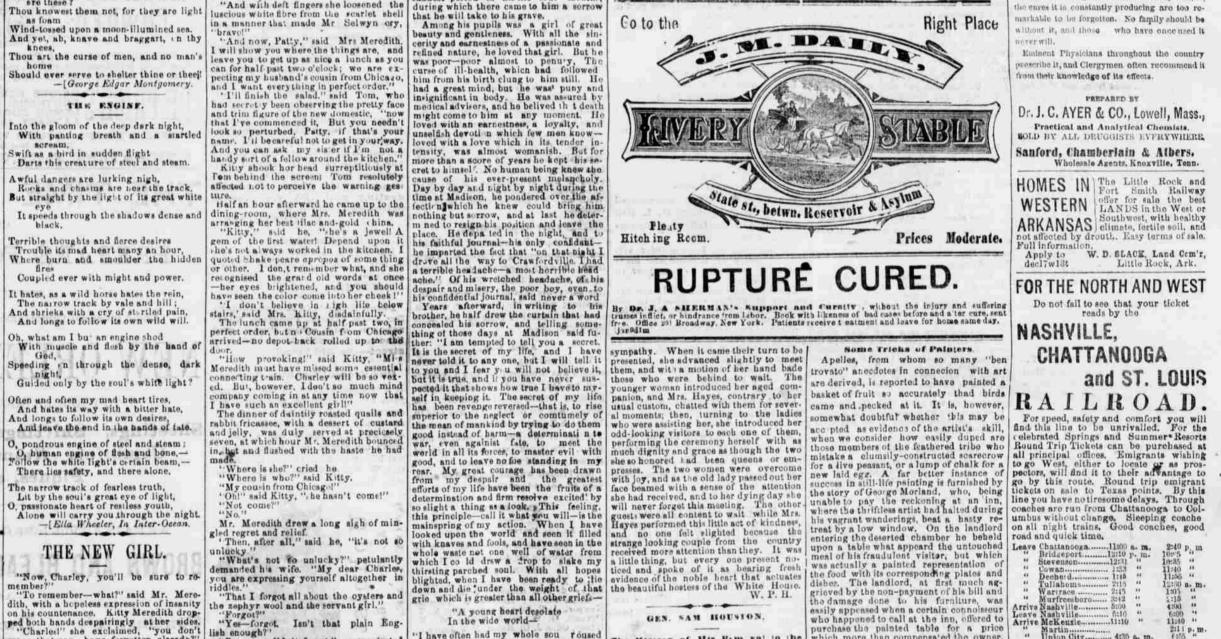
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During Sam Houston's residence in the Cherokee nation, west of Arkansas, he lived with a daughter of old Captain John Rogers, an Indian, between Grand or Neosho river and Verdigris river about two and a half miles west of Fort Gibson. He was merchandising, but tried to conform to the ways and habits of the Indians,

entering the deserted chamber he benefd upon a table what appeard the untouched meal of his fraudulent visitor, but which was actually a painted representation of the food with its corresponding plates and disher. The landlord, at first much aggrieved by the non-payment of his bill and the damage done to his furniture, was easily appeared when a certain connected when he have not desired to the first distribution of the control of the co easily appeased when a certain connoisseur who happened to call at the inn, offered to purchase the painted table for a price which more than compensated the owner. Fiddles, dies, dead game, and other objects have been imitated with such ideity as to be regarded by all persons beholding them as original or natural productions, and in a church on the Continent (I think at Genoa) there is a wall so cunningly painted as to lead the spectator to believe that he is gazing, not upon a flat surface, but upon a continuation of the sacred interior.—All the Year Round.

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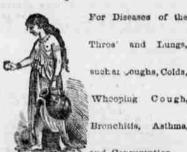
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